

CLAIMS**WE CLAIM:**

1. A lancing method comprising the steps of:

driving one of a magnetic element and a member capable of being affected by magnetic
5 forces emanating from the magnet in communication with a lancet by the other of the element
and the member to pierce a user.

2. The method of Claim 1 further including the step of:

withdrawing the driven lancet.

3. A lancing method using a lancing device with a housing and a lancet therein, comprising
the steps of:

driving a lancet in communications with one of a magnetic element and a member
capable of being affected by magnetic forces emanating from the magnet by the other of the
15 magnetic element and member so a tip of the lancet exits the housing to puncture a user.

4. The method of Claim 3 further including the step of:

withdrawing the driven lancet back into the housing also by the other of the magnetic
element and the member.

5. The method of Claim 3 wherein the step of driving the lancet involves having the one
of the magnetic element and the member passing through the other of the magnetic element and
the member.

6. A lancing method comprising the steps of:

driving a lancet in communications with one of a magnetic element and a member
capable of being attracted and repelled by magnetic forces radiating from the magnet by the
other of the element and the member to pierce a user.

7. The method of Claim 6 further including the step of:

withdrawing the driven lancet.

8. A lancing method comprising the steps of:

positioning both a magnetic element and a member capable of being affected by magnetic forces emanating from the magnetic element within a housing with a lancet in communications with one of either the magnetic element or the member, the lancet being
5 movable between a withdrawn position wherein the lancet is within the housing and a piercing position wherein the lancet is projecting from the housing and adapted to be movable from a withdrawn position to the piercing position by the movement of one of either the magnetic element or member relative to the other of either the magnetic element or the member;

positioning either the member or the magnetic element to an armed position wherein the
10 magnetic forces from the magnetic element affect the member; and,

releasing the one of either the member or the magnetic element from the armed position permitting movement between the member and magnetic element by at least, in part, the magnetic forces, resulting in the movement of the lancet from a withdrawn position to the
15 piercing position.

9. The method of Claim 8 further including the step of:

holding the one of either the member or the magnetic element in the armed position, the lancet being in a withdrawn position.

10. The method of Claim 8 further including the step of:

adjusting the lancet for selectively controlling the positioning of the piercing position.

11. The method of Claim 8 further including the step of:

adapting the magnetic element and the member so as to permit one to pass through the
25 other and the other to pass around the one.

12. The method of Claim 8 further including the step of:

connecting the lancet in communication to the member so that movement of the member results in corresponding movement of the lancet.

13. The method of Claim 8 further including the step of:

orienting and configuring the magnetic element and the member within the housing in such manner that in the armed position, the magnetic forces of the magnetic element attract the member to the magnetic element and when the member is released, the member travels towards the magnetic element and past the magnetic element by the momentum of the traveling member
5 resulting in the lancet traveling to the piercing position.

14. The method of Claim 8 further including the step of:

orienting and configuring the magnetic element and the member within the housing in such a manner so as to create a steady state position between the withdrawn position and the
10 piercing position wherein the magnetic forces of the magnetic element hold the member concentric therewith and the lancet is within the housing.

15. The method of Claim 8 further including the step of:

orienting and configuring the magnetic element and the member within the housing such
15 that in the armed position, the magnetic forces of the magnetic element attract the member to the magnetic element and when the member is released, the member travels towards the magnetic element, through the steady state position concentric with the magnet, past the magnetic element by the momentum of the traveling member and back to the steady state position resulting in the lancet traveling to the piercing position and back to a position within
20 the housing.

16. The method of Claim 8 further including the steps of:

fixing the magnetic element within an inner shaft; and
fixing the member around an outer shaft;
25 moving the outer shaft relative to the inner shaft.

17. The method of Claim 8 further including the step of:

releasably connecting the lancet to the outer shaft.

18. The method of Claim 8 further including the step of

releasably connecting an end cap to the housing.

19. The method of Claim 8 wherein the member is selectively held in the armed position or released from the armed position by a switch.

5 20. The method of Claim 19 wherein the switch is selectively engaging or disengaging a the member, the member being held in the armed position and the lancet is in the withdrawn position when the switch engages the member and the member and lancet being free to move from the armed and withdrawn positions when the switch is disengaged from the member.

10 21. The method of Claim 8 wherein the step of positioning either the member or the magnetic element to an armed position wherein the magnetic forces from the magnetic element affect the member involves moving an arming member which mechanically moves the collar from the steady state position to the armed position.

15 22. The method of Claim 21 further including the step of:
holding the arming member to the housing by at least one spring.